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2-3729

6 April 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the Director
Mr. [redacted]

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SUBJECT: IRC Report on Redefection

REFERENCE: Letter from Mr. Leo Cherne to the
Director, dated 27 March 1956, attached.

1. We have gone over the IRC report on the Communist redefection campaign among refugees from iron curtain countries, and find that from a substantive viewpoint it adds little or nothing to the knowledge or documentation already acquired by ICA in conducting its program for escapees. Indeed, parts of the IRC study seem to have been lifted intact from classified ICA [redacted] reports, and the study as a whole is characterized by its failure either to source the material presented, or to support its conclusions in a systematic manner. This is particularly true in its treatment of the problem of refugees in the United States who have returned to Eastern Europe. Very little data have been available from official sources on this particular aspect of the problem (ICA having been concerned solely with refugees in Europe), and the scarcity of official information is directly reflected in the IRC's failure satisfactorily to support its conviction that redefection among refugees located in the United States has become a problem of real magnitude. This conceivably may be the fact, but the IRC study doesn't establish it.

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2. As you are aware, an OCB working group has been applying itself to a study of redefection for some time, and we understand it is about ready to come up with some recommendations which in many respects will parallel those of the Cherne study, particularly in regard to the handling of the problem in Europe, where Cherne and the OCB group were working from about the same material. However, in the case of redefectors from the United States, the OCB working group probably will not recommend courses of action involving further

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publicity in the domestic press; the argument runs that no good can come of giving further dissemination to the Kremlin line. The IRC study, however, concludes that more publicity and a full mobilization of the departments of government able to contribute would be the best approach to a solution. The IRC report comments, in this context,

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[redacted] This for your information only; our feeling is that CIA is not directly concerned with the domestic phases of the problem.

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In these circumstances, we suggest that the reply to Mr. Cherne comment favorably on the idea of improved handling of the refugee problem without referring too specifically to the IRC study.

4. If you agree, the attached letter is for the Director's signature.

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[redacted]
V. Chief
Psychological and Paramilitary

[redacted] 25X1

Attachment

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. DULLES

In his memo attached, [redacted] makes the statement that parts of the IRC report seem lifted verbatim from classified ICA [redacted] files. In support of this statement he has stapled into the IRC report at the appropriate page a photo-copy of an official ICA graph which is virtually identical with that in the IRC report.

We have the report in Jack's office if you particularly desire to look at it.

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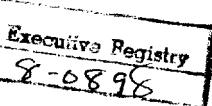
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11 Apr 56

(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)



Leo Cherne

Executive Director
The Research Institute of America, Inc.
139 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

March 27, 1956

Hon. Allen W. Dulles
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I am enclosing a copy of The Donovan Commission report on the Soviet redefinition campaign. I think the data are from every point of view more complete than in any previous examination of this most important subject.

The members of the Commission really devoted themselves in their study of the subject during our weeks in Europe. And at least as much care has been given to the assembling and presentation of the data.

We deeply hope that our study will prove to be useful. Please tell me whether there are any ways in which we can be of additional help in this area.

After you have had an opportunity to glance through the report, I would greatly appreciate a chance to talk to you briefly about certain aspects of the problem and the available counter measures.

With my deep personal wishes,

Sincerely,

LC:ck